31 October 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Secretary Muskie, 30 October 1980

1. We talked for a long time about the Iranian hostage situation. The Secretary thought it possible either that Khomeini would make a statement that would get the Majlis members to attend and constitute a quorum or that some of the members who were off at the battle front would come home in order to make a quorum. On the other hand, he doubted that we were going to see the release of the hostages before the U.S. elections.

I made a point to the Secretary that we needed to look soon at what our policy on Iran was going to be after the hostage release. We went through the possibilities of Khomeini's losing control or dying, and I suggested the need to be positioning ourselves with some alternative individuals/groups whom we could help take power instead of the left. I specifically recommended a PRC on this before too long. (S/NF)

- 2. We discussed the Iraq-Iran war and whether there was going to be a greater strain on Iraq than Iran. He wanted to know whether we had any evidence that the Russians were delivering weapons or parts to Iraq, or whether they really were diverting ships and in other ways making sure they did not. I'd appreciate a status report on this. (S/NF)
- 3. Secretary Muskie was concerned about what the Russian reaction might be if the United States provided spare parts to Iran. I told him I thought they would have to swallow it because they were taking a pro-Iran tilt at this time. It would be difficult for them to react by supplying Iraq, for instance. (S/NF)
- We had a long talk about Poland. He indicates the Poles came in. I believe yesterday, with a request for \$3 billion worth of aid over the next 25X1C three years. (S/NF)
 - We talked about Nicaragua.

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- 6. We didn't get to the narcotics item. I'd like to review the bidding on this one. The President asked for something on this. The report we have made indicates there is really nothing we can do at this time. I suppose when I got that report I marked on it to hold for the next Muskie meeting. Ask our narcotics people, though, whether I should send a copy of this directly to Bensinger or anyone else with a note saying the President was interested and whether we could do anything but that this was our view. We can probably take care of it with a note to Muskie since the President wouldn't be likely to read it himself anyway. (S/NF)
- 7. He did not raise the Foreign Service Act and neither did I. Let's hold this for a few weeks; boil down what my position really should be in talking with him and raising it positively if it looks like he is going to be Secretary of State in the future. (S/NF)

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STANSFIELD TURNER Director

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Remarks: Paragraphs for action/information extracted as noted above.

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